

ocket No.: 006217 USA/Consilium/Consilium

PATENT/OFFICIAL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Nicholas A. WARD et al.

Serial No. 09/927,444 : Group Art Unit: 2125

Filed: August 13, 2001 : Examiner: Sean P. Shechtman

For: DYNAMIC CONTROL OF WAFER PROCESSING PATHS IN SEMICONDUCTOR

MANUFACTURING PROCESSES

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

This submission does not constitute a representation that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission or representation that any of the listed

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documents is material or constitutes prior art. If it should be determined that any of the listed

documents does not constitute prior art under the United States law, Applicants reserve the right

to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such

document.

The references listed on Sheet 1 of the attached PTO-1449 Forms were cited in a

patentability investigation and/or a corresponding foreign or PCT application relating to the

above-referenced application. The remaining references are from potentially related patent

applications, and possibly other sources.

No fee is believed to be required; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to

charge any additional fees that may be required for this submission, or credit any overpayment to

deposit account no. 08-0219.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 7/2/04

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EXAMINER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (PTO-1449)

ATTY. DOCKET NO. 006217 USA/ Consilium/Consilium SERIAL NO. 09/927,444

Nicholas A. WARD et al.

FILING DATE August 13, 2001 GROUP 2125

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS FILING **EXAMINER'S CLASS** SUBCLASS DATE NAME PATENT NO. DATE INITIALS 12/18/95 07/28/98 5,787,021 Samaha 03/21/95 11/03/98 Eastburn et al. 5,831,851 03/29/96 5,943,550 08/24/99 Fulford, Jr. et al. 09/04/98 05/01/01 Lim 6,226,563 B1 09/04/98 05/22/01 6,237,050 B1 Kim et al. FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS EP \mathbf{X} 03/14/01 EP 1 083 470 A2 OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) July 25, 2003. International Search Report for PCT/US02/24858.

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

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APPLICANT

Nicholas A. WARD et al.

FILING DATE August 13, 2001 GROUP 2125

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